GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2424
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2002
IRREGULARITIES IN DIRECTORATE OF PRINTING
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;MD ANWARUL HAQUE

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the indictments against the Directorate of Printing made in the CAG Report (No.2 of 2000) for year ended March, 1999 and the Special Investigating Report tabled before Rajya Sabha on 22.11.2001; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY O URBAN DEVELOPMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a): Yes, Sir. Action Taken Notes on the observations of the C&AG in Para 5.2 of its Report No.2 of 2000 (Civil) were furnished to the Monitoring Cell, Ministry of Finance on 20.2.2001 and 13.3.2001 after being vetted by the Office of the Principal Director of Audit, Economic and Service Ministries. Material for advance information of the Public Accounts Committee for examination of the said C&AG Para was also forwarded to the Lok Sabha Secretariat on 24.8.2001. Since then, there has been no further reference in this regard.

The Special Investigating Report was forwarded by the Audit in May 2001 and material/information as desired by the Audit has been furnished on 27.7.2001 and 3.9.2002. There has been no further feedback from the Audit so far.

(b): The various remedial measures taken by the Government are as follows:

(i) The Government has approved modernization/restructuring of the Government of India Presses action for which has already been initiated;

(ii) performance of the Presses are being critically monitored. Managers are regularly advised to conduct weekly meetings with floor-level supervisors to improve production by minimizing idling of machinery;

(iii) State Electricity Boards have been requested for uninterrupted power supply. All efforts are made for regular supply of paper/raw materials to the Presses;

(iv) Managers have been advised to contact Local/State Governments for allotment of jobs;

(v) Pendency of jobs are regularly monitored to liquidate arrears;

(vi) Commercial Accounting System is being introduced in the Presses in a phased manner to facilitate quick billing and realization of Printing Charges from the Indentors;

(vii) Efforts are made at the highest level for recovery of outstanding Printing Charges by regularly reminding the indentors;

(viii) Financial Powers of the Head of Press, in certain cases, have been enhanced for overall improvement of the Presses. The working of the Presses are being monitored through Monthly Managerial Control Return, Monthly Return of Pending Jobs, quarterly Return regarding Raising of Bills and Outstanding Printing Charges etc.;

(ix) The Heads of Indenting Ministries/Departments have been advised to plan their printing requirements - both annual and incidental - so that maximum jobs are allowed to be executed by the Government of India Presses. They have also been advised to supply Camera Ready Copies/Floppies of the manuscripts to facilitate quick printing of jobs.